

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent)
application of:)
Markus Noller et al.)
In Continuation of International)
Application No. PCT/EP00/07550)
Filed August 3, 2000)
DEVICE FOR EXTRUDING PLASTIC)
COMPOUNDS) January 23, 2002

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

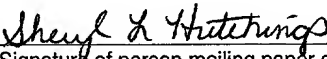
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

As a Preliminary Amendment to the above-referenced Application, please enter the following amendments prior to computing the filing fees therefore.

IN THE CLAIMS :

Please amend claims 3, 5, 6 and 7 as follows:

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I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR §1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.	
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We claim:

3. Device according to Claim 1, characterised in that the measured variable is the flow rate of the compound.

5. Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a transport instrument (16) for removing the compound extruded from the die (14),
- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and
- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the transport instrument (16), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the transport velocity (v_t) of the transport instrument (16) corresponds to the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14).

6. Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a rotary instrument (26) having at least one rotatable die (14),
- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and
- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the rotary instrument (26), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14) fluctuates minimally.

7. Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, characterised in that

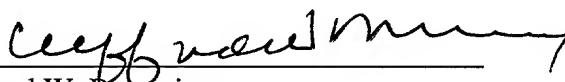
- a feed instrument (12) is connected through a plurality of channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c) to a die (14) having a plurality of outlet openings, and
- a sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is in each case arranged at the channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c) or at the outlet openings of the die (14).

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REMARKS

Attached hereto are pages 5-6 that present a marked up version of the changes made to the claims by this preliminary amendment. Page 5 is captioned "Version With Markings To Show Changes Made."

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

Claims 3, 5, 6 and 7 have been amended as follows:

[Patent Claims] We claim:

3. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1 [or 2], characterised in that the measured variable is the flow rate of the compound.

5. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3 [or 4], characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a transport instrument (16) for removing the compound extruded from the die (14),
- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and
- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the transport instrument (16), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the transport velocity (v_t) of the transport instrument (16) corresponds to the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14).

6. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, [4 or 5] characterised in that

- the device (10) comprises a rotary instrument (26) having at least one rotatable die (14),
- the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is operatively coupled to a/the control instrument (62), and
- the control instrument (62) is capable of controlling the rotary instrument (26), as a function of at least one measured value determined by the sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c), in such a way that the exit velocity (v_s) of the compound from the die (14) fluctuates minimally.

7. (Amended) Device according to Claim 1, 2, or 3, [4, 5 or 6] characterised in that

- a feed instrument (12) is connected through a plurality of channels (24a ; 24b ; 24c)
to a die (14) having a plurality of outlet openings, and

- a sensing instrument (60a ; 60b ; 60c) is in each case arranged at the channels (24a ;
24b ; 24c) or at the outlet openings of the die (14).

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